

IN SENATE
OF
THE UNITED STATES,

FEBRUARY 5, 1818.

The committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of
Elijah Rice, respectfully

REPORT:

That the petitioner claims one hundred acres of land to which he was entitled by an act of Congress, for his services during the revolutionary war; also, three hundred dollars back pay, awarded to him by judge Iredell, of the circuit court of the United States, for like services. The petitioner further asks Congress to award to him the amount of wages due to his brother Timothy Rice, who died a prisoner in Quebec, (after the fall of general Montgomery,) for services rendered by his brother during the war, amounting to thirty pounds, as the petitioner believes; also, that he may receive whatever sums of money may be due for the services of his sons, Amos Rice, who fell in the battle of Tippecanoe, belonging to captain Joel Cook's company of the fourth regiment, and Elijah Rice, as the petitioner has been informed, was massacred in the hospital at fort Niagara, but does not know under what officers he enlisted. The petitioner declares that he enlisted, himself, in the year 1775, under captain Ezekiel Scott, in a brigade commanded by general Spencer, that he served during the war, received several severe wounds, which have much disabled him, that he is now indigent, and unable to support himself and his family.

The petitioner further states, that the papers and documents which would have entitled him to his pay and place on the pension list, were delivered to general Parsons, and were lost with him when he was drowned in the western country, in consequence of which, he lost the opportunity of being placed on the pension list, when he would have been entitled to such pension; and afterwards he brought his claim before judge Iredell, who, in addition to the sum awarded, recommended the petitioner to be placed on the pension list, at the rate of sixty dollars per annum. Two years afterwards, the petitioner preferred his claim before the commissioners, Chauncy Goodrich, Thomas Seymour, and Jonathan Bull, Esquires, appointed for the purpose of examining the claims of the soldiers of the revolutionary army, under an act of the Congress of the United States, who decided the

petitioner was entitled to be placed on the pension list, at the rate of forty-five dollars per annum, but not entitled to any back pay. The committee are of opinion, that the decision made by the commissioners, in the petitioner's case, appointed for the special purpose of adjusting the claims of the soldiers of the revolutionary army, ought to prevail. The time when the decision was made, the circumstances attending the petitioner's claim were recent, when compared with the present time; nor is there any evidence or reason offered by the petitioner to impeach the decision of the commissioners; had any reason existed, the presumption is, that the claimant would have applied for relief, and not submitted to the decision until this day, from the time he was placed on the pension roll of Connecticut, by the law of Congress of 20th of April, 1796, at the rate of three dollars and seventy-five cents per month.

It is further to be remarked, that, by an act of Congress, 24th April, 1816, the pension of Mr. Rice was increased to six dollars per month, to commence from the passage of the act. Of this fact the committee refer to a communication made from the Department of War. The land claimed by the petitioner, the committee are of opinion has been granted, as appears from a certificate from the War Department, in the words following: "War Department, section of bounty lands. By records in this office, it appears that a warrant for one hundred acres of land, military bounty of the United States, was issued in right of Elijah Rice, a soldier of the Connecticut line, in the revolutionary army of the said United States, to Richard Platt, assignee, under number 6362, dated August 10, 1789." The committee are further of opinion, that if any money be due from the United States to the deceased brother and sons of the petitioner, for military services, and to which the petitioner may be entitled, as their heir and representative, the existing laws provide for the payment thereof. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

Department of War,
January 30th, 1818.

SIR,

I return to you the petition of Elijah Rice, and have to remark, that a pension was granted to him under the law of the 20th of April, 1796, at the rate of three dollars and seventy-five cents per month; that in 1816, his pension was increased to six dollars per month. It is presumed, that all other documents tending to elucidate the claim of Mr. Rice in behalf of his brother, &c. were destroyed by the invasion of the capitol by the British, in 1814.

If any pay was due for revolutionary services, the payment is barred by acts of limitation. The certificate of bounty land is is-closed.

I have the honor to be,

Your most obt. servant,

J. C. CALHOUN.

Honorable James Noble,
Senator United States, for Indiana.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Section of Bounty Lands.

By records in this office, it appears that a warrant for one hundred acres of land, military bounty of the United States, was issued in right of "Elijah Rice, a soldier of the Connecticut line, in the revolutionary army of the said United States, to Richard Platt, assignee, under the number 6362, dated August 10, 1789."

NATHANIEL CUTTING.

28th January, 1818.

[70]

Department of War

January 20th 1918

SIR

I enclose to you the petition of William Lee, and have to report that a pension was granted to him under the law of the 2nd of April 1782, in the sum of three dollars and seventy cents per month. It has been paid to him since the 1st of July 1917, and is now being paid to him in the sum of three dollars and seventy cents per month. The petition of William Lee is now being considered by the War Department, and it is expected that a pension will be granted to him in the sum of three dollars and seventy cents per month. The petition of William Lee is now being considered by the War Department, and it is expected that a pension will be granted to him in the sum of three dollars and seventy cents per month.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Yours very truly,
J. M. CALHOUN
Major General, U. S. Army
Adjutant General's Office
Washington, D. C.

By records in this office, it appears that a warrant for one hundred dollars was issued to the said William Lee, and that the same was paid to him on the 1st of July 1917. The said William Lee is now being considered by the War Department, and it is expected that a pension will be granted to him in the sum of three dollars and seventy cents per month.

WILLIAM LEE

20th January 1918